

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1. (Previously Presented) An apparatus having an emergency alert function, comprising:
 - tuning means for tuning signals including emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function;
 - interface means for disabling an audio output device associated with said apparatus;
 - and processing means for enabling said audio output device associated with said apparatus responsive to activation of said emergency alert function if said audio output device has been disabled via said interface means.
2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said disabled audio output device includes an internal speaker of said apparatus.
3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said disabled audio output device is operatively connected to an audio output terminal of said apparatus.
4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said processing means further enables a first alert output via said audio output device responsive to activation of said emergency alert function.
5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said processing means further enables a second alert output via a secondary device responsive to activation of said emergency alert function.
6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said secondary device includes a telephone.
7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said secondary device includes a computer.
8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said secondary device includes a television signal receiver.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said secondary device includes a visual output device.
10. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling an apparatus having an emergency alert function, comprising:
tuning signals including emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function; and
enabling a disabled audio output device associated with said apparatus responsive to activation of said emergency alert function;
wherein said audio output device had previously been disabled by a user through an interface.
11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said disabled audio output device includes an internal speaker of said apparatus.
12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said disabled audio output device is operatively connected to an audio output terminal of said apparatus.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, further comprised of enabling a first alert output via said audio output device responsive to activation of said emergency alert function.
14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, further comprised of enabling a second alert output via a secondary device responsive to activation of said emergency alert function.
15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said secondary device includes a telephone.
16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said secondary device includes a computer.
17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said secondary device includes a television signal receiver.
18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said secondary device

includes a visual output device.

19. (Previously Presented) A television signal receiver having an emergency alert function, comprising:

a tuner operative to tune signals including emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function; and

a processor operative to enable a disabled audio output device associated with said television signal receiver, said audio output device having previously been disabled by a user through an interface, responsive to activation of said emergency alert function.

20. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 19, wherein said disabled audio output device includes an internal speaker of said television signal receiver.

21. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 19, wherein said disabled audio output device is operatively connected to an audio output terminal of said television signal receiver.

22. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 19, wherein said processor is further operative to enable a first alert output via said audio output device responsive to activation of said emergency alert function.

23. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 22, wherein said processor is further operative to enable a second alert output via a secondary device responsive to activation of said emergency alert function.

24. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 23, wherein said secondary device includes a telephone.

25. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 23, wherein said secondary device includes a computer.

26. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 23, wherein said secondary device includes a television signal receiver.

27. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 23, wherein said secondary device includes a visual output device.